Conflict in implementation of OBC quota in Delhi University

201. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported observation made by Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University that implementation of the OBC quota has left us no scope to innovate or experiment with new ideas, as two different laws may regulate implementation of the OBC quota in colleges under Delhi University this year, because the Delhi List and the National List of reserve category differ;

(b) whether State Law Department believes that the Central Law does not apply to its 20 colleges, fully funded and managed by Delhi Government; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) According to the clarification furnished by the University of Delhi, the matter reported in a section of media on 24th April, 2008 was in a different context and the observation of the Vice-Chancellor did not refer either to the Central or the State Lists for OBC reservation.

(b) and (c) The Central Educational Institutions (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006 is not applicable to the colleges which are fully maintained or funded by the Government of NTC of Delhi or are not receiving any aid from the Central Government.

Allocation for higher education

202. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total allocation for higher education sector in the country during the last three Five Year Plans;

(b) whether it is a fact that the allocation for higher education in the country is very low, as compared to other countries; and

(c) the steps taken by the Central Government to encourage private investment in higher education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) The plan allocation for Department of Higher Education during IX, X and XI Five Year Plans is Rs. 7908.40 crore, Rs. 9500 crore and Rs. 84943 crore respectively.

(b) No Sir, public expenditure on education sector as a whole as percentage of GDP is higher than India in respect of some countries like U.S.A and U.K while it is lower than India in some other countries like Pakistan and Bangladesh.

(c) During XI Five Year Plan, several new programmes such as setting up of colleges in low GER districts, opening of new Polytechnics and Indian Institutes of Information Technology etc. for enhancement of capacity are proposed to be taken up through Public-Private-Partnership mode.